Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for [~~stabilizing~~] enhancing the solubility of a blood protein solution comprising:

(a) [~~providing a blood protein solution;~~

~~(b)~~] adding to [~~the~~] a blood protein solution hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin in an amount sufficient to form a stable complex with the protein; and

[~~(c)~~] (b) lyophilizing the solution of step [~~(b)~~] (a) to form a lyophilized [~~protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex of the protein and hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin.

2. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, further comprising reconstituting the lyophilized [~~protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex.

3. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1, further comprising heating the blood protein solution, before or after adding hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin, at a temperature of at least [~~about~~] 60°C for a time sufficient to inactivate any viruses present [~~in the protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex.

4. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 3 wherein the blood protein solution is heated for at least [~~about~~] 10 hours.

5. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 3 wherein the blood protein solution is heated to a temperature of at least [~~about~~] 80°C for at least [~~about~~] 72 hours.

6. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 3 wherein the blood protein solution is heated to [~~about~~] at least 100°C for at least [~~about~~] 1 hour.

7. (Original) The process according to claim 1, further comprising subjecting the blood protein solution, before or after adding the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin, to a solvent detergent viral inactivation step.

8. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin is present in the protein solution in an amount ranging from about 0.5% wt/vol. to about 15% wt/vol.

9. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin is present in the protein solution in an amount ranging from about 1% wt/vol. to about 12% wt/vol.

10. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 2, wherein the protein is present in the reconstituted [~~protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex in an amount greater than about 0.1% wt/vol.

11. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 2 wherein the protein is present in the reconstituted [~~protein /hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex in an amount from about 1% to about 8 %.

12. (Original) The process according to claim 1 wherein the protein is selected from the group consisting of albumin, Factor II, Factor VII, Factor VIII, Factor IX, Factors X and X_a, fibrinogen, antithrombin III, transferrin, haptoglobin, gamma globulins, fibronectin, protein C, protein S, thrombin and C1-inhibitor.

13. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein the protein is fibrinogen.

14. (Original) The process according to claim 12, wherein the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin is present in the protein solution in an amount ranging from about 0.5% wt/vol. to about 15% wt/vol.

15. (Original) The process according to claim 12, wherein the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin is present in the protein solution in an amount ranging from about 2% wt/vol. to about 12% wt/vol.

16. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 12, wherein the fibrinogen is present in the reconstituted [~~protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex in an amount greater than about 1% wt/vol.

17. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 12, wherein the protein is fibrinogen, and the fibrinogen is present in the reconstituted [~~protein /hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex in an amount from about 3% wt/vol. to about 10% wt/vol.

18. (Currently Amended) A process for [~~stabilizing~~] enhancing the stability of a fibrinogen solution comprising:

(a) [~~providing a fibrinogen solution;~~

~~(b)~~] adding to [~~the~~] a fibrinogen solution hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin in an amount sufficient to form a stable complex with the protein;

[~~(c)~~] (b) lyophilizing the solution of step [~~(b)~~] (a) to form a lyophilized [~~fibrinogen/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex of fibrinogen and hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin; and

[~~(d)~~] (c) reconstituting the lyophilized [~~fibrinogen/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex.

19. (Currently Amended) A lyophilized [~~blood protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex of a blood protein and hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin prepared by:

(a) [~~providing a blood protein solution;~~

~~(b)~~] adding to [~~the~~] a blood protein solution hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin in an amount sufficient to form a stable complex with the protein; and

[~~(c)~~] (b) lyophilizing the solution of step [~~(b)~~] (a) to form the lyophilized [~~blood protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex.

20. (Currently Amended) A blood protein product prepared by:

(a) [~~providing a blood protein solution;~~

~~(b)~~] adding to [~~the~~] a blood protein solution hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin in an amount sufficient to form a stable complex with the protein;

[~~(c)~~] (b) lyophilizing the solution of step [~~(b)~~] (a) to form a lyophilized [~~protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex of the protein and hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin; and

[~~(d)~~] (c) reconstituting the lyophilized [~~protein/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex.

21. (Currently Amended) A fibrinogen product prepared by:

(a) [~~providing a fibrinogen solution;~~

~~(b)~~] adding to [~~the~~] a fibrinogen solution hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin in an amount sufficient to form a stable complex with the protein;

[~~(c)~~] (b) lyophilizing the solution of step [~~(b)~~] (a) to form a lyophilized [~~fibrinogen/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex of fibrinogen and hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin; and

[~~(d)~~] (c) reconstituting the lyophilized [~~fibrinogen/hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin~~] complex.

22. (Original) A blood protein product comprising a lyophilized solution of a stable complex of protein and hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin.

23. (Currently Amended) The product according to claim 22, wherein the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin is present [~~in the solution~~] in an amount ranging from about 0.5% wt/vol. to about 15% wt/vol.

24. (Currently Amended) The product according to claim 22, wherein the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin is present [~~in the solution~~] in an amount ranging from about 1% wt/vol. to about 12% wt/vol.

25. (Original) The product according to claim 22, wherein the blood protein is fibrinogen.

26. (Original) A stabilized blood protein solution comprising a complex of the blood protein and hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin.

27. (Original) The solution according to claim 26, wherein the protein is present in the complex in an amount greater than about 3% wt/vol.

28. (Currently Amended) The product according to claim 26, wherein the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin is present in the [~~solution~~] <u>complex</u> in an amount ranging from about 0.5% wt/vol. to about 15% wt/vol.

29. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 26, wherein the hydroxypropyl-α-cyclodextrin is present in the [~~solution~~] <u>complex</u> in an amount ranging from about 1% wt/vol. to about 12% wt/vol.

30. (Original) The product according to claim 26, wherein the blood protein is fibrinogen.